

Ashtabula Telegraph.

JAMES REED & SON, Proprietors.

ASHTABULA, OHIO.

SHOVEL AND TONGS.

You stand in your usual dark night
In my heart, glowing fair and bright
In the arms that to you belong.

Old shovels and tongs are
For the work that you do.

When seated with a sudden flash of light
They brought you out of the dark night
And made you shine as bright as day.

For rust you never could shed your
Long tongue; yet they polished your slender
Legs.

And you stand guard by my arm-chair
Here.

Like a tall grenadier.

Your mate, too, polished to high degree,
Stands ready for duty when it be
Your duty to be in the front line.

And you both, as in seventeen ninety-two,
Have not worn your tin to do.

Great-grandmother handed you then with
Grace.

I'm looking up now at your Spartan face:
For pictures of the past and future
Happies and all.

Had you only ears, and tongues as well,
Full many a story you might tell
Of family rights and family wrongs.

Old shovels and tongs!

Of wedding tides and household joys,
Of innocent romping and boys—
But, busy with your own round work,
You, too, are mute.

You'll think in this pale vale of tears
You're a hundred years old
When others are singing of household joys,
Old shovels and tongs!

And some fair woman not yet born
May read your story from depths of fern,
While, bending, like you, she looks far back,
For broken time.

—New York Sun.

WAS HE A HERO?

CHAPTER I.

Jack Hasbrouck was rather a common sort of boy. His light brown hair was generally very much tumbled up, his face was plain and freckled, and his honest hazel eyes did not sparkle or glow, or do anything in particular but enable their owner to see. He was fourteen years old, a strong, healthy lad, very fond of play and not a bit fond of study or work. So, take him all in all, Jack was not such a boy as one would naturally select for a hero.

Jack's home was on an island—Winona Island, we will call it—lying in the Shattemuck River, about forty miles from the sea. All around the island, which stretched its rocky length a mile along the western side of the river, rose granite highlands covered to the summit with the forest primeval. Between the western shore and the island lay a broad salt marsh, and beyond the marsh, for miles and miles, spread out an almost trackless forest. On the eastern side flowed the river, at this point half a mile wide and more than a hundred feet deep. It was not a wild spot for a home, and a rough place in which to pass a winter. But in summer it was rarely beautiful, and a fine place for every kind of boyish sport.

There were, besides Jack's family, two other living on the island, and in each was a boy about Jack's age. Joe Kiesler was a little older, and a good deal smarter—so everybody thought—than Jack. Charley Grant was a year younger, and a sort of body-servant to the two older boys, who liked him and tyrannized over him to their hearts' content. The three lads generally got on together very pleasantly. There was plenty for them to do. They played at work when required, and worked at play with all their might whenever they could get off from the drudgery of "chores" and the usual fall sports were neglected. October faded into November, and the first week proved a cold and stormy one. The fierce northwest winds came howling down the mountain sides, lashing the river into foamy "white caps," and rattling the heavily laden trees with their utmost skill to avoid an upset in the narrow pass between the hills. It was a dreary time, and the boys felt, as they had never felt before, how tiresome the island was in heavy weather.

CHAPTER II.

One morning, while the storm still raged, Charley came running over to Jack's house all breathless and excited. "Joe's awful sick!" he cried, as soon as he could catch his breath. "The doctor's come, and they don't think he'll ever get well."

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ting into a heat. "You can't come that far on us. Divide fair, or you shan't divide at all."

"I'd like to know who's going to prevent me?"

Joe was getting uglier every minute. What was merely a spirit of mischief at the start had now become a hard, wicked purpose to be unfair, in spite of everything. Jack jumped to his feet, the fire in his heart bursting into a hot and furious flame.

"It's a mean trick, and you're a mean fellow to do it, so there now!"

The two boys had always been good friends. They had had their "tiffs," like other boys, but these were little affairs and soon made up. For the lads were really very fond of each other, and could not bear to be at enmity long. But there was a more serious affair. On the one side an act of outrageous injustice—on the other an accusation that no boy of spirit, especially if he deserved it, could endure for a moment.

Joe was on his feet now, and with clenched fists and angry face shouted, "Say that again, if you dare!"

There was an instant's pause. Poor little Charley stood by in an agony of wonder and fear. It was not a pleasant scene to witness in the pleasant woods on this bright October day.

But angry passions spoil many a lovely day in this fair world of ours!

"I do dare say it!" said Jack, with a hot flush on his freckled face.

The words he uttered passed his lips when Joe, stung to fury by the taunt, sprang forward and planted a heavy blow in Jack's face. It was an ugly deed—the first blow he had ever struck, except in fun.

Now, if Jack had been a hero, he would probably have put himself in a fighting attitude, and "pitched in" for a regular battle with his angry friend. They would have had a furious fight, and after mauling each other for some time and getting black eyes and bloody faces, would have shaken hands and gone home.

But Jack was not a hero. He was a boy, and boys are not heroes. He was a boy who was a little older, and a good deal smarter—so everybody thought—than Jack. Charley Grant was a year younger, and a sort of body-servant to the two older boys, who liked him and tyrannized over him to their hearts' content.

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"Poor fellow, indeed. He was taken last night with a fever, and this morning is delirious."

"May I go over to see him?"

"No, indeed! You'd only be in the way, and might catch the fever."

Jack slunk away, and went aimlessly out into the yard. At Charley's first words, all the anger had gone out of his heart, and a kind of awful dread had taken its place. What if Joe should die! What if that miserable scene in the woods should be his last view of the boy he liked so well!

Jack went on, even anything in the world, including his boat and his six-bladed jack-knife, if he could only see Joe for just one little minute, and "make up" before he died.

But day followed day in anxious suspense. It was hard to get the doctor over to the island; for it was a good two-mile row to the village, and the weather was so rough that it was a task for two stout men to pull the heavy boat across. And when he came, he could do little but look at the hot face of the young boy, and prescribe a different medicine.

One night—it was near the crisis of the disease—a sad accident happened. The doctor had been there during the day, and left a medicine which he said must be given at intervals during the night. Just after the evening had set in, with pitchy darkness, rendered doubly black by the heavy clouds which hung below the sky, Mrs. Kiesler went to the closet to pour out another dose of the medicine. Nervous from anxiety and long waiting, she took the bottle with an unsteady hand. In an instant it had slipped through her fingers, and was dashed into a thousand pieces on the floor. Here was a sad case, indeed! All of poor Joe's medicine gone, and no possible way of getting any more!

The doctor was momentarily increasing in violence, and the anxious mother well knew that no one would dare to venture across the river in so furious a tempest. The accident was soon known in all the homes, and many were the words of sympathy uttered. But even the hardy boatman, accustomed to rough weather, shook his head when the possibility of getting to the village was spoken of.

"I ain't no use talkin'," he said. "Ye couldn't get across no'n nuthin' at all."

In the morning, after a good night's rest, Jack awoke, as

Every one felt the force of old Hasbrouck's words, for none doubted his courage or his skill as a boatman.

But to one listener the intelligence of the mishap and the impossibility of remedying it brought a hope and a desire which soon resolved themselves into action.

"What was the name of the medicine, mother?" said Jack quietly.

Mrs. Hasbrouck told him. No one noticed when, a minute later, Jack slipped out of the door with cap and overcoat, and sped into the darkness.

It was, indeed, a fearful night. The storm had risen to a gale. The chill November rain poured down in torrents, and the furious wind whistled and howled amid the leafless branches of the trees.

Through the darkness Jack could hear the roar of the waves that were dashing heavily against the rocks, and as he heard the dock he could dimly see the glimmer of their white crests.

With much difficulty he unfastened the painter of his stanch little boat, and with a low, crouching figure, he was out on the boiling river.

It was a serious task he had before him. Already he was wet to the skin by the driving rain, and every moment showers of salt spray dashed over him.

The cold water numbed his bare hands, feet and face, and he could scarcely hold the oars. Again and again the waves knocked the oars from the rowlocks, and threatened to engulf him beneath their dreadful weight.

But Jack did not feel a bit of fear. Perhaps he did not realize the full extent of the danger he was in. Possibly he thought—hope he did—that God was on the river as well as on the land, and that He who still the waves on Galilee could care for the boy who was trying, with a stout heart and determined will, to do a noble deed for a friend's sake.

He did not falter in his purpose, but struggled manfully on until, by the sound of the breakers, he knew he was near the other side. Fortunately, he struck the shore within a little cove, sheltered by high rocks, and was able to land without much trouble.

The walk to the village, a mile and a half, was along a railway track; a part of it across a long bridge, on which only a single plank was laid for foot-passengers. But walking was pleasant after the tremendous labor of rowing, and Jack trudged briskly forward, cheered by the lights of the village.

An occasional gleam from the flagmen's boxes along the road. In due time the village was reached, the medicine procured, and Jack started on his return trip with a light and eager heart.

But walking down the road with the wind, and up against the rain, were two quite different things. Often Jack was brought to a complete standstill, and his breath fairly blown away, by the fury of the gale.

On the long bridge he was several times obliged to cling to the posts with his hands to save himself from being blown into the water. At length, however, he got safely back to his boat, and after stopping a few moments to rest, launched out again upon the tossing waves.

But all this while, what was happening on the island? For a time, Jack's absence was not noticed. But when the family were assembled for evening prayer, inquiry began to be made for him. No one knew where he was, of course, and the exercise went on without him. Then nine o'clock came, and Mrs. Hasbrouck, growing somewhat worried, went to look for her son and cap. Both were gone! Then there was a sudden muster of the family forces. The neighbors were inquired of, but they knew nothing of him.

Where could the boy be? The men went about calling through the darkness, but no Jack responded to their shouts. They searched in every nook and corner where he could be supposed to be, but all in vain.

All at once, with a mother's instinct, Mrs. Hasbrouck recalled Jack's inquiry about the medicine. Could it be? Yes, that must be it! With lantern in hand, waiting for no one, she ran to the dock. Jack's boat was gone! The mystery was solved; but the poor mother's heart sank within her as she looked out on the stormy river, and remembered what the old boatman had said.

But not a moment was to be lost. She hastened back to the house, and in a trice every window towards the river was lighted up, and a large reflecting light was carried to the rock above the landing. At least there should be nothing omitted that could help the poor lad find his way home.

If the hungry waves had spared him.

Just as Jack struck out into the river he glanced behind him and saw the faint glimmer of the lights through the pelting rain. It put new life into his sturdy arms, and the rushing waves and furious wind did not seem half so threatening as before.

He knew they were watching and praying for him, and he smiled to think how glad they would all be when he landed with the precious medicine that was to save poor Joe's life. But O how long it took to row across! Wind and tide were against him now. Every stroke of his oars seemed to require the utmost strength he could put into it, and after his previous exertions, the labor rapidly wore upon his energies, until the poor lad's courage began to fail, and his mind that he might be lost to the doctor's care.

How tired he felt, and how numb his hands were growing! The pleasant lights seemed farther off than when he saw them first. He was surely drifting away, and would soon be swallowed up with the life-giving science that the surging, pitiless river. Gradually, his strokes became less and less vigorous. His weary arms refused to do their office. His head swam, and before he could recover himself, an oar had slipped from his weakened grasp.

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healthy boys do, as well as ever; and his first thought was for Joe.

Whether it was the medicine procured at so much risk, or kind Nature that did it, it is impossible to say; but in the morning the crisis of the fever had passed, and Joe was on the mend.

In a day or two, Jack was permitted to see him for a few minutes. Mrs. Kiesler had proudly told her boy what his friend had done for him, and Joe, remembering sadly their last encounter in the woods, was eager to see dear Jack once more. But their meeting was dreadfully prosaic.

"Jack," said Joe, in a thin, faint voice, extending his poor, weak hand, "was awful good of you to do that for me."

Joe grasped his hand warmly, and looked a great deal. But he only said: "O pshaw! 'twasn't anything at all!"

But from that time forth never were two boys such friends as Joe and Jack. —Examiner and Chronicle.

FARM AND FIRESIDE.

—Apples, in addition to being a delicious fruit, make a pleasant medicine. A raw mellow apple is digested in an hour and a half, while boiled apples require five hours.

If baked apples are eaten frequently at breakfast with coarse bread and butter, without meat or flesh of any kind, it has an admirable effect on the general system, often removing the effects of colds, coughs and colic, and cooling off febrile conditions more effectively than the most approved medicines. —Burlington Haskage.

—Here is a recipe for crullers old enough to be good. It was taken from a manuscript receipt-book written in New York in 1788: Take of butter, milk, sugar, salt, and eggs, of each a cupful; of Muscovado, a piece of sweet butter as large as a walnut, a teaspoonful of salt and a tablespoonful of ground cinnamon; just as much wheat flour as will make a running dough; roll it out, not above a pie thickness; cut in strips, which the finger is to be used to make a knot; have a skillet with sweet home-bog's fat, and when the fat is hissing hot fry your crullers. A house-keeper who has tried this venerable recipe writes to the New York Times:

"I tried it with some hesitation, as there is no allusion in it, but was surprised to find it made a light cruller. —Give your plants fresh air on cheerful, sunny days; they need it. Cleanliness is as necessary to their health as that of animals; and it is, therefore, necessary to secure them from dust as much as possible, and also to cleanse the plants by spraying or syringing or washing. Even here a little caution is necessary, for while the smooth-leaved plants are benefited, not only by showering, but even by washing the leaves with a cloth or sponge, the rough-leaved plants, like the Begonia Rex, do not like to have the surface of their leaves frequently moistened. It would therefore, be well to remove such plants before syringing. Take every precaution, however, to prevent the accumulation of dust upon the plants. —Exchange.

—The small things which need attention in early spring are numerous and pressing, and if they are not done now, they will probably have to go another year. The wagons and carts need painting or repairing, the plows to be overhauled, harrow-teeth pointed, seed to be selected or procured, harness to be repaired and cleaned, the thrashing machine worked, and the horse-power to be oiled—in short, all tools for spring and summer work should be looked at and put in order. If you have not been in the habit of keeping accounts, the present is a good time to get an account-book and begin. It requires very little knowledge of book-keeping. But this, so that you can understand it yourself, at any rate, and it is very satisfactory at the end of the year to see just how matters do stand. —N. Y. Herald.

Scientific Farming Practical.

Mr. Buckmaster, before a well-attended meeting of farmers, held at Tallin, in England, on the 12th inst., considered a scheme for teaching the science of farming, said that there was no opinion more deeply ingrained in the mind of the English farmer than the belief that there was antagonism between science and practice. Some even went so far as to say that the two were incompatible. The farmer who drains his land or tries a new manure, or a new machine, or a new crop, calls himself a practical man; he despises all experiment, and laughs at the teaching of science. He is not a practical man, but a theorist, and he is not a theorist, but a practical man. The farmer who drains his land or tries a new manure, or a new machine, or a new crop, calls himself a practical man; he despises all experiment, and laughs at the teaching of science. He is not a practical man, but a theorist, and he is not a theorist, but a practical man.

THE MARKETS.

NEW YORK, March 6, 1890.

LIVE STOCK—Cattle, 4 1/2 to 5 1/2; Hogs, 4 1/2 to 5 1/2; Sheep, 4 1/2 to 5 1/2.

WHEAT—No. 2, 1 1/2 to 1 3/4; No. 3, 1 1/4 to 1 1/2; No. 4, 1 1/4 to 1 1/2.

COAL—No. 1, 1 1/2 to 1 3/4; No. 2, 1 1/4 to 1 1/2; No. 3, 1 1/4 to 1 1/2.

IRON—No. 1, 1 1/2 to 1 3/4; No. 2, 1 1/4 to 1 1/2; No. 3, 1 1/4 to 1 1/2.

STEEL—No. 1, 1 1/2 to 1 3/4; No. 2, 1 1/4 to 1 1/2; No. 3, 1 1/4 to 1 1/2.

COTTON—No. 1, 1 1/2 to 1 3/4; No. 2, 1 1/4 to 1 1/2; No. 3, 1 1/4 to 1 1/2.

SUGAR—No. 1, 1 1/2 to 1 3/4; No. 2, 1 1/4 to 1 1/2; No. 3, 1 1/4 to 1 1/2.

SPICES—No. 1, 1 1/2 to 1 3/4; No. 2, 1 1/4 to 1 1/2; No. 3, 1 1/4 to 1 1/2.

TEA—No. 1, 1 1/2 to 1 3/4; No. 2, 1 1/4 to 1 1/2; No. 3, 1 1/4 to 1 1/2.

COFFEE—No. 1, 1 1/2 to 1 3/4; No. 2, 1 1/4 to 1 1/2; No. 3, 1 1/4 to 1 1/2.

PEPPER—No. 1, 1 1/2 to 1 3/4; No. 2, 1 1/4 to 1 1/2; No. 3, 1 1/4 to 1 1/2.

CLAY—No. 1, 1 1/2 to 1 3/4; No. 2, 1 1/4 to 1 1/2; No. 3, 1 1/4 to 1 1/2.

—During the year 1889 the late A. T. Stewart, invited Lewis Tappan, a partner in the firm of Arthur Tappan & Co., to come to his store, then situated on Broadway opposite the City Hall, to examine his stock, books and papers, and report the facts of his condition to his firm and to Henry Sheldon, a French importer, and several others, from whom Mr. Stewart desired considerable credit. After a careful examination Mr. Tappan reported Mr. Stewart to be "fairly worth \$200,000, and above all his liabilities." This gave confidence to all parties, and thenceforward he had all the credit he wanted. Some years after this, Mr. Stewart told Mr. Tappan that the credit given him as the result of that examination gave him a new start in business, and was of immense advantage to him. —Harper's Weekly.

—The Louisville Democrat says that as a body politics each State should cut its figure. Its prosperity and strength should not be seen in the number and magnificence of its public buildings, such as State-houses, Poor-houses, Correction-houses, Court-houses, Jails, Penitentiaries, etc.

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